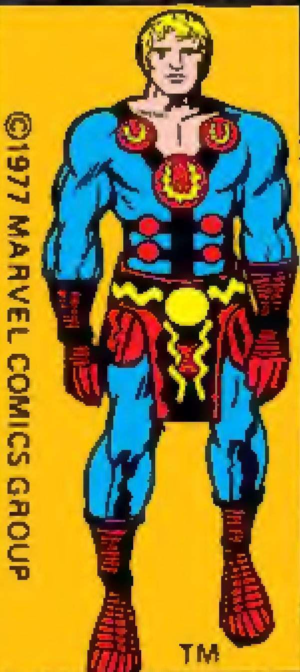
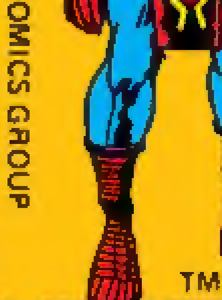
THE ETERNALS ™

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THE DIABOLICAL DROMEDAN BATTLES

THE ETERNALS™

HE HAS THE POWER TO MOLD THE WORLD TO HIS WILL! THE DEADLIEST CHALLENGE YET FOR IKARUS AND THE MYSTIC MIGHT OF: SERSI THE TERRIBLE!

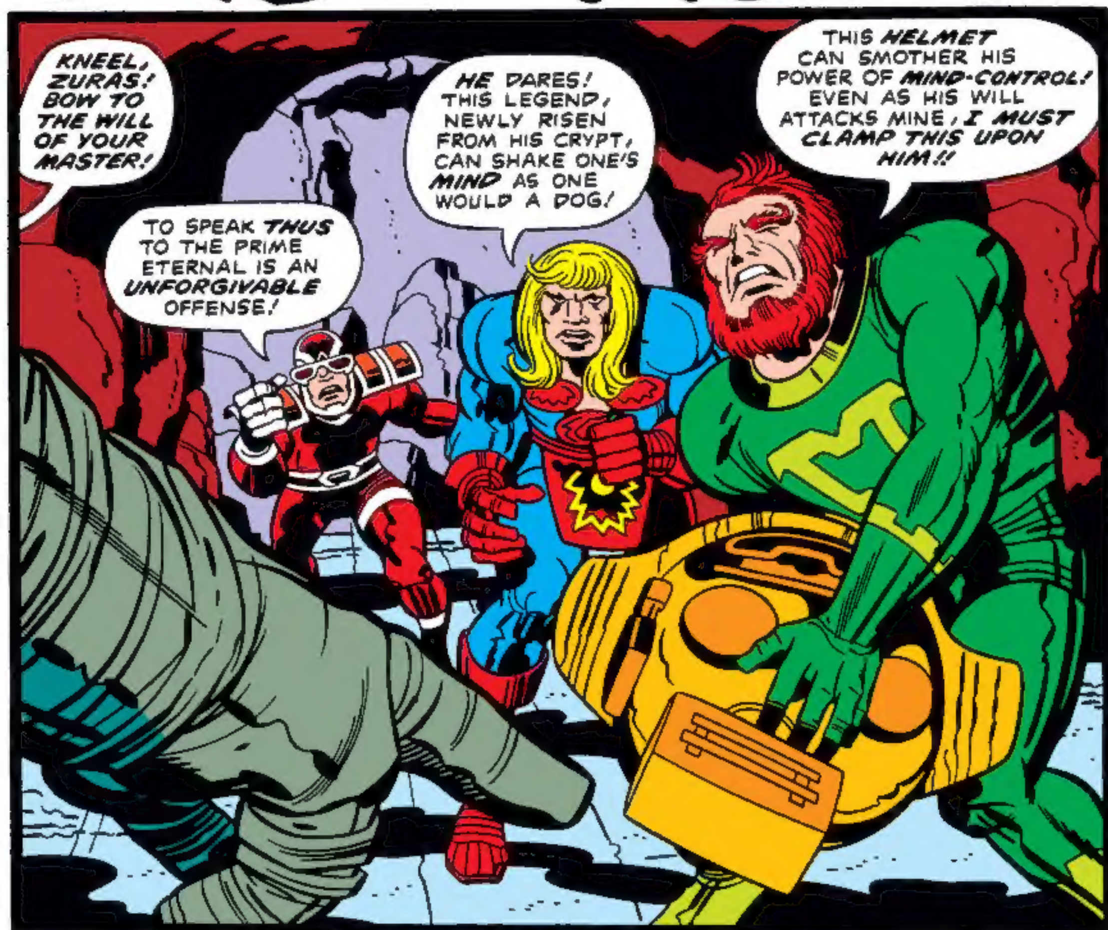
Strange events have exposed a startling fact, kept alive through the centuries only by myth and superstition—man is not alone on the evolutionary chain!! He has shared the planet with two species unknown to him! Now, in a sudden burst of violence, the Deviants have risen from their domain beneath the sea to challenge all humanity!! But mankind has unexpected allies—

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE ETERNALS!**™

EDITED, WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY JACK KIRBY • LETTERED & INKED BY MICHAEL ROYER • COLORED BY GLYNIS WEIN • UMPIRED BY ARCHIE GOODWIN

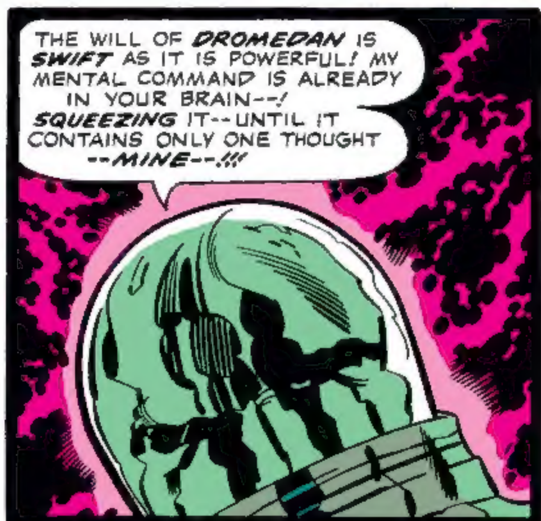
IN AN ANCIENT CRYPT UNEARTHED BY EXPLODING GAS LINES BENEATH A MODERN CITY'S STREETS, THE MIGHTY POWERS OF THE **FOREMOST** ETERNALS ARE UNDER HAMMERING ATTACK! THEIR OPPONENT ONCE MADE THE WORLD TREMBLE! **IF HE WINS, HE MAY DO IT AGAIN** --UNLESS THE WRATH OF A **FEMALE** CAN STOP HIM! READ...

SERSI the TERRIBLE

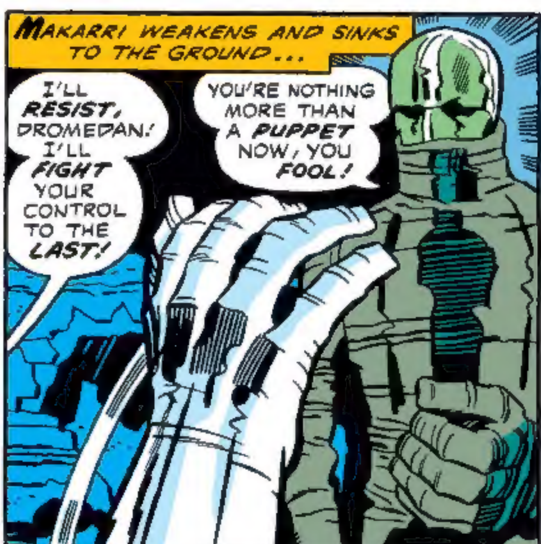


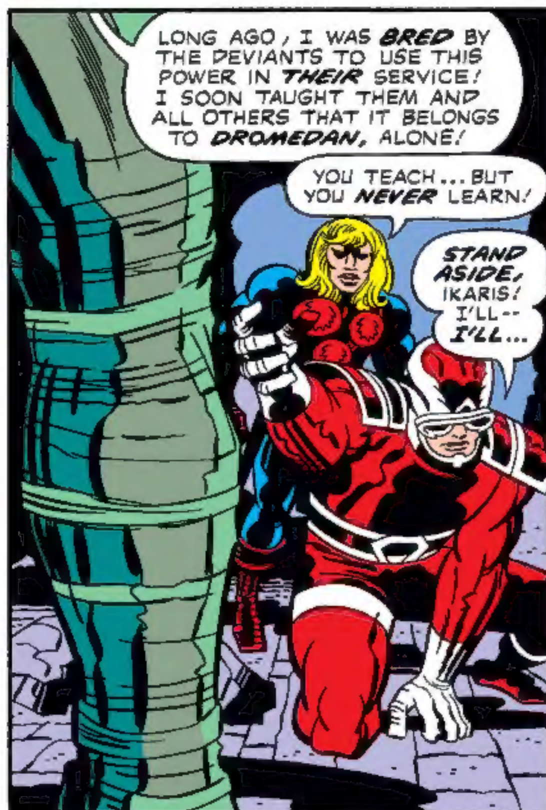

MY WILL IS FREE! I CAN BREAK THIS MIND ATTACK ON GREAT ZURAS!
STRIKE HARD, MAKARRI!
LEAVE THIS TO US, SIRE!
I NEED BUT A MOMENT TO RECOVER, IKARIS! RESISTING THAT MONSTER IS A MIGHTY TASK!

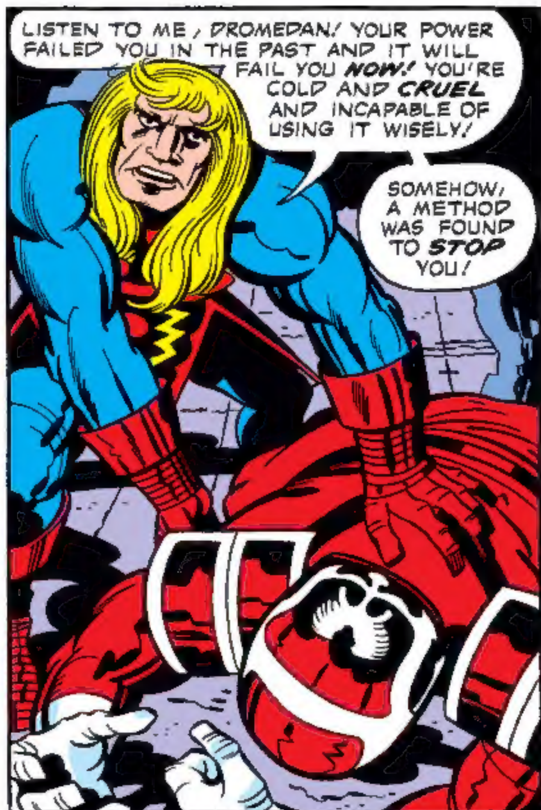

HEED YOUR LEADER'S WORDS, FOOLISH ONE! TO ATTACK ME IS FUTILE!
YOU'LL BE MERE PULP BEFORE YOU CAN SEIZE MY MIND!


THE WILL OF DROMEDAN IS SWIFT AS IT IS POWERFUL! MY MENTAL COMMAND IS ALREADY IN YOUR BRAIN--! SQUEEZING IT--UNTIL IT CONTAINS ONLY ONE THOUGHT --MINE--!!!

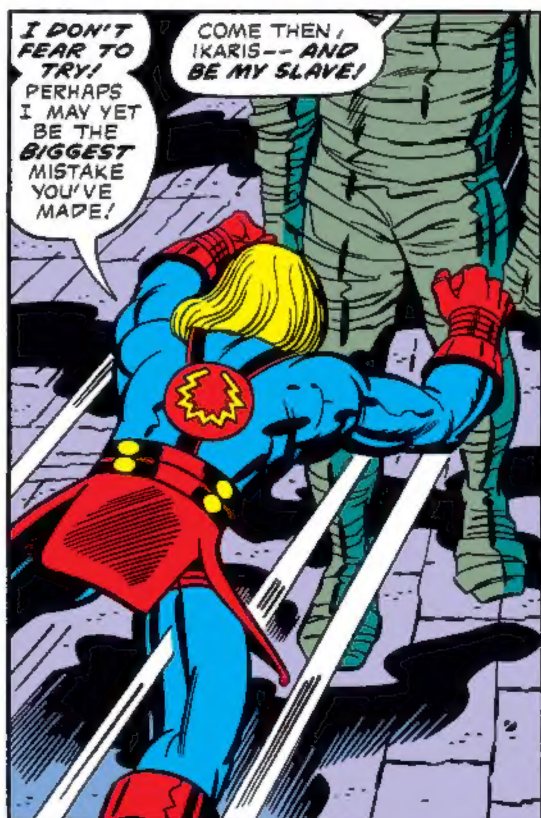

I-I CAN'T MOVE--! I WANT TO ATTACK-- BUT, I-- CAN'T!
YOU CAN'T BECAUSE-- I FORBID IT!


MAKARRI WEAKENS AND SINKS TO THE GROUND...
I'LL RESIST, DROMEDAN! I'LL FIGHT YOUR CONTROL TO THE LAST!
YOU'RE NOTHING MORE THAN A PUPPET NOW, YOU FOOL!


LONG AGO, I WAS BRED BY THE DEVIANTS TO USE THIS POWER IN THEIR SERVICE! I SOON TAUGHT THEM AND ALL OTHERS THAT IT BELONGS TO DROMEDAN, ALONE!
YOU TEACH ... BUT YOU NEVER LEARN!
STAND ASIDE, IKARIS! I'LL-- I'LL...

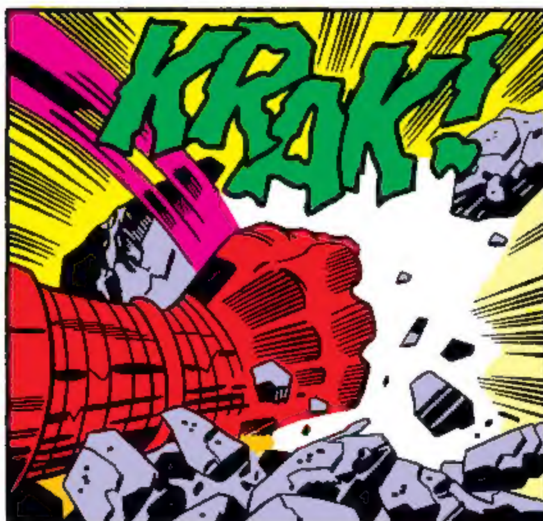

LISTEN TO ME, DROMEDAN! YOUR POWER FAILED YOU IN THE PAST AND IT WILL FAIL YOU NOW! YOU'RE COLD AND CRUEL AND INCAPABLE OF USING IT WISELY!
SOMEHOW, A METHOD WAS FOUND TO STOP YOU!


NO POWER IS ABSOLUTE IN THE HANDS OF A MADMAN! YOU'RE NOT CLEVER ENOUGH TO AVOID MISTAKES!
ARROGANT ETERNAL! YOU'RE NOT CLEVER ENOUGH TO BE ONE OF MY MISTAKES!


I DON'T FEAR TO TRY! PERHAPS I MAY YET BE THE BIGGEST MISTAKE YOU'VE MADE!
COME THEN, IKARIS-- AND BE MY SLAVE!


A POWERFUL MENTAL COMMAND GRASPS THE WILL OF IKARIS. HE FALLS HEAVILY AMONG THE ROCKS...
USE THE HAND THAT WOULD STRIKE ME AND POUND IT ON THE STONES!


ALTHOUGH IKARIS ATTEMPTS TO RESIST THE ORDER, HIS MIND IS ALMOST SHATTERED BY THE STRENGTH OF IT...
DO IT! DO AS I SAY!


KRAK!

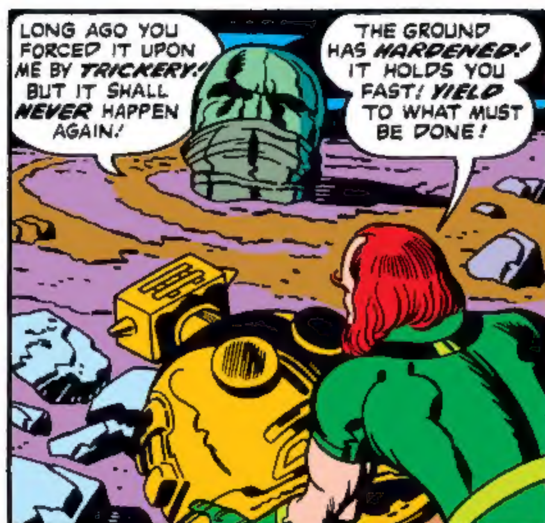

BLAST YOU, DROMEDAN! I CURSE YOUR NAME FOR ALL TIME!
THE PAIN WILL MAKE YOU KINDER, IKARIS!
KEEP POUNDING!!
BAM


THE BRAVEST OF THE BRAVE HAVE LEARNED TO CRAWL TO ME FOR MERCY! I'VE MADE THEM WEEP LIKE CHILDREN BEFORE I GAVE THEM RELEASE!


SUDDENLY...
CRASH!!!

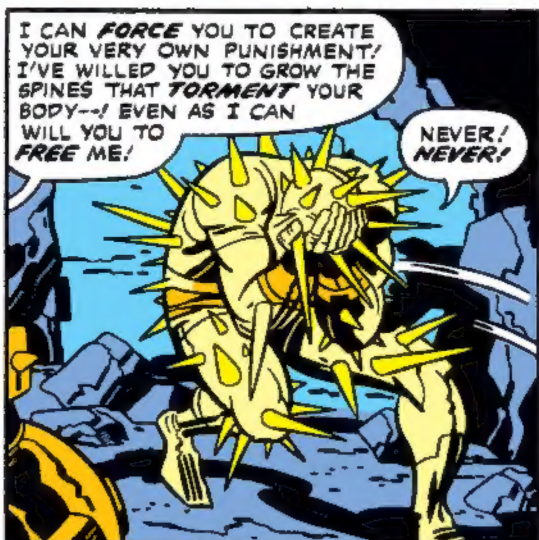

ONLY THE BOLTS OF GREAT ZURAS COULD TURN THIS HARD GROUND INTO A MOLTEN LAKE!
I'M STILL IN THIS FIGHT, DROMEDAN! I HAVEN'T YIELDED!

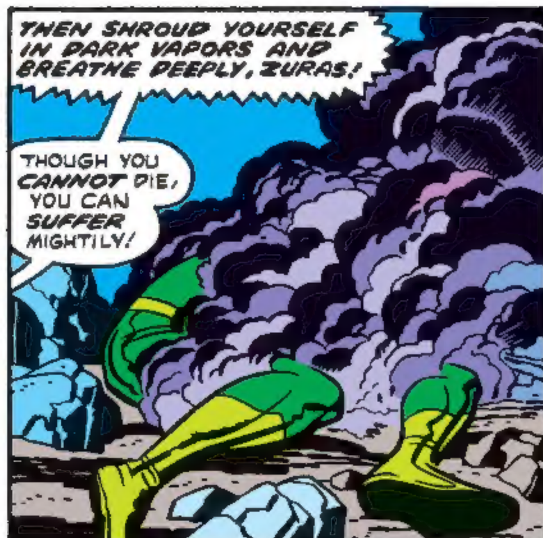

DO YOU THINK TO IMPRISON ME WHEN THIS HARDENS? YOU SHOULD HAVE TRIED TO DESTROY ME INSTEAD!
I AM NOT A DESTROYER, DROME-DAN! I MUST MAKE YOU WEAR THIS HELMET!


LONG AGO YOU FORCED IT UPON ME BY TRICKERY! BUT IT SHALL NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN!
THE GROUND HAS HARDENED! IT HOLDS YOU FAST! YIELD TO WHAT MUST BE DONE!

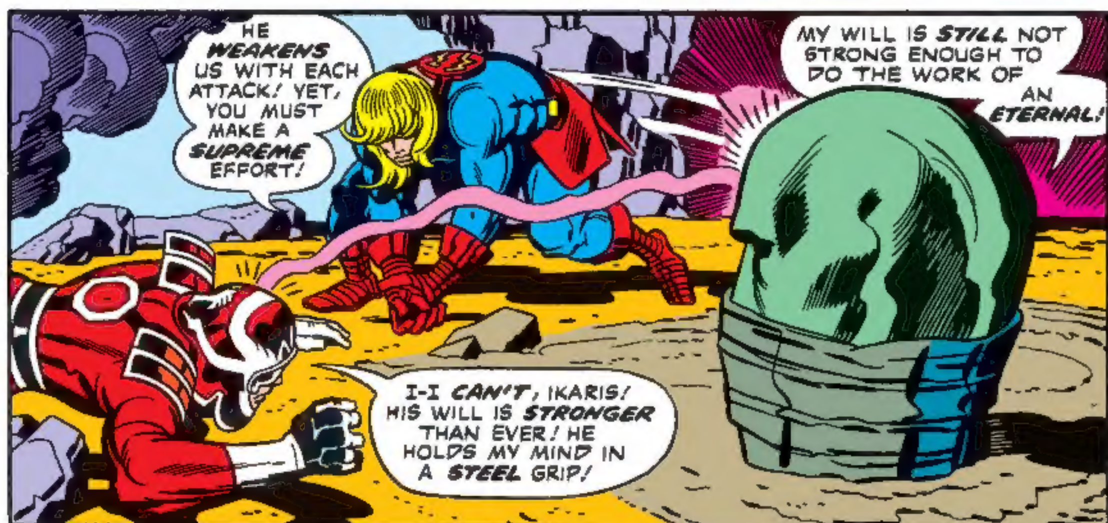

THIS WILL BRING YOU PEACE -- AND GIVE FINAL SECURITY TO ALL THAT YOU THREATEN!


FOOLISH ZURAS MUST BE SHOWN THAT HIS HEART BETRAYS HIS HEAD! BEHOLD THE NEW POWER OF MY MIND ATTACK!

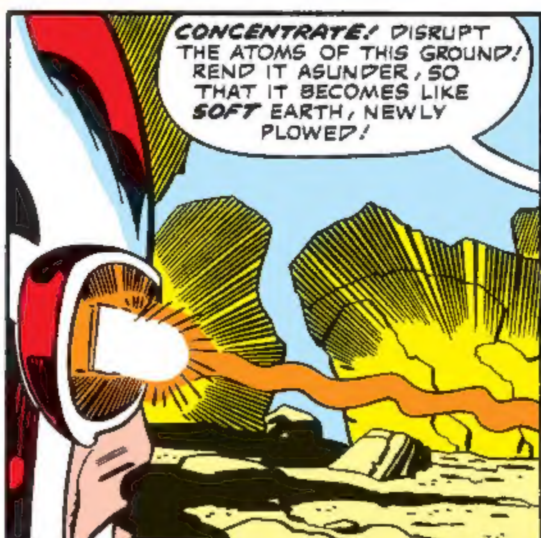

I CAN FORCE YOU TO CREATE YOUR VERY OWN PUNISHMENT! I'VE WILLED YOU TO GROW THE SPINES THAT TORMENT YOUR BODY--! EVEN AS I CAN WILL YOU TO FREE ME!
NEVER! NEVER!


THEN SHROUD YOURSELF IN DARK VAPORS AND BREATHE DEEPLY, ZURAS!
THOUGH YOU CANNOT DIE, YOU CAN SUFFER MIGHTILY!

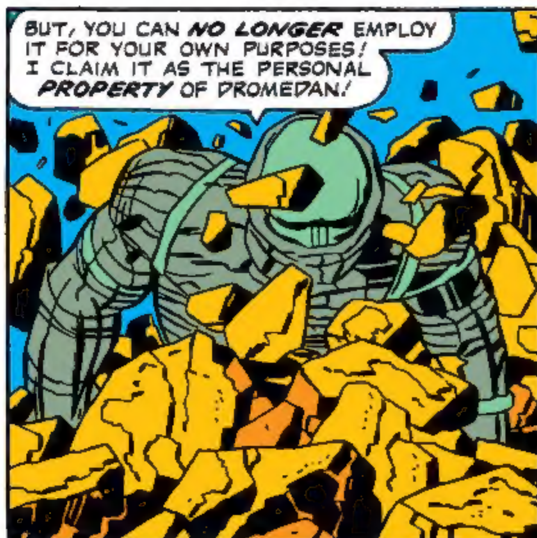

MAKARRI'S POWERS WILL SERVE AS WELL FOR THE TASK!
FIGHT HIS WILL, MAKARRI! COUGH! COUGH! HE MUSTN'T BE FREED!
I'LL TRY, GREAT ZURAS! I-I'LL TRY...

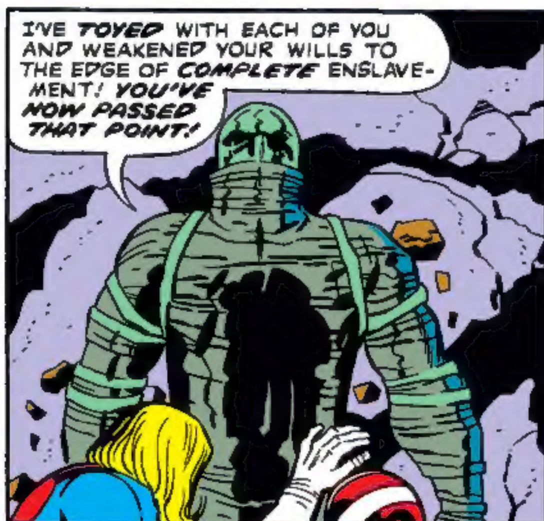

HE WEAKENS US WITH EACH ATTACK! YET, YOU MUST MAKE A SUPREME EFFORT!
MY WILL IS STILL NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO DO THE WORK OF AN ETERNAL!
I-I CAN'T, IKARIS! HIS WILL IS STRONGER THAN EVER! HE HOLDS MY MIND IN A STEEL GRIP!


BUT, IT CAN CONTROL YOU! IT CAN FORCE YOU TO A TASK SO EASILY ACCOMPLISHED BY YOUR KIND!
NO, MAKARRI! NO!


CONCENTRATE! DISRUPT THE ATOMS OF THIS GROUND! REND IT ASUNDER, SO THAT IT BECOMES LIKE SOFT EARTH, NEWLY PLOWED!


MAKARRI DOES AS HE IS ORDERED... THEN...
WELL DONE, ETERNAL! YOUR MIND IS A USEFUL TOOL, INDEED!
KRAKRAKRAKRAK!!!!

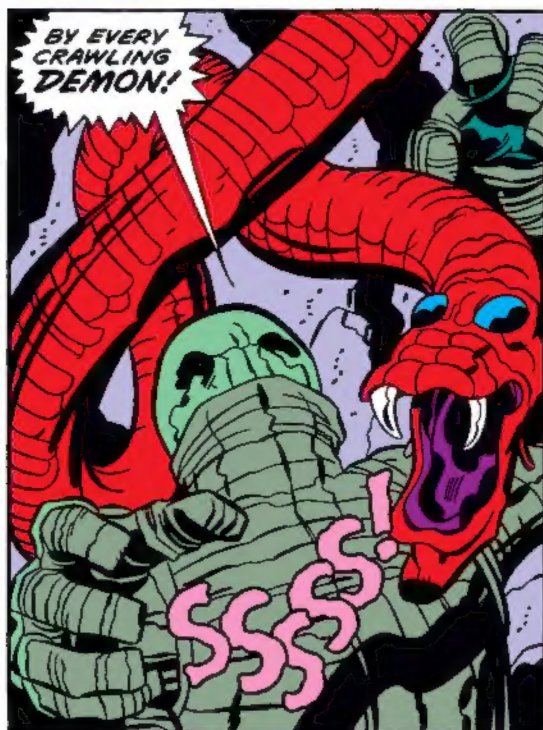

BUT, YOU CAN NO LONGER EMPLOY IT FOR YOUR OWN PURPOSES! I CLAIM IT AS THE PERSONAL PROPERTY OF DROMEDAN!


I'VE TOYED WITH EACH OF YOU AND WEAKENED YOUR WILLS TO THE EDGE OF COMPLETE ENSLAVE-MENT! YOU'VE NOW PASSED THAT POINT!


YOUR POWERS WHICH COULD HAVE HUMBLED ME ARE NOW MINE TO COMMAND!
STAND, SLAVES! YOU'VE LOST YOUR BATTLE TO STAY FREE!


THIS LITTLE GAME HAS ALLOWED ME TO BRING MY MENTAL POWERS TO THEIR FORMER STRENGTH! I CAN NOW DESTROY THOSE I ATTACK!

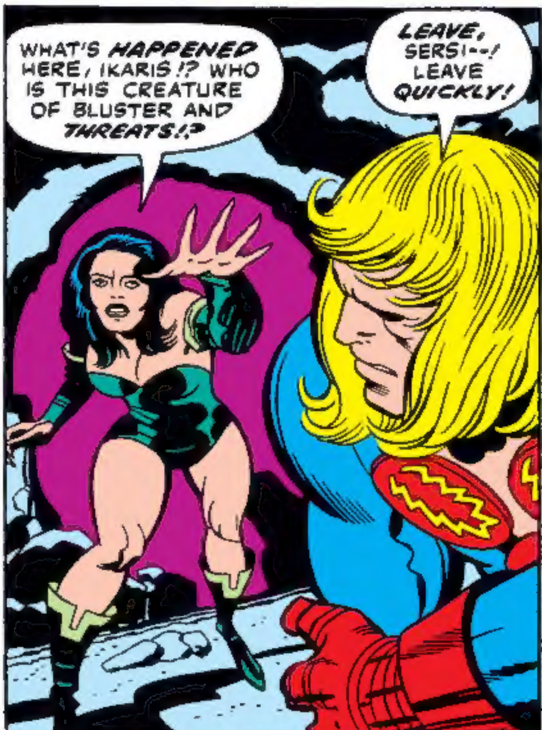
AT THAT MOMENT, GREAT REPTILIAN COILS DROP UPON DROMEDAN FROM ABOVE...



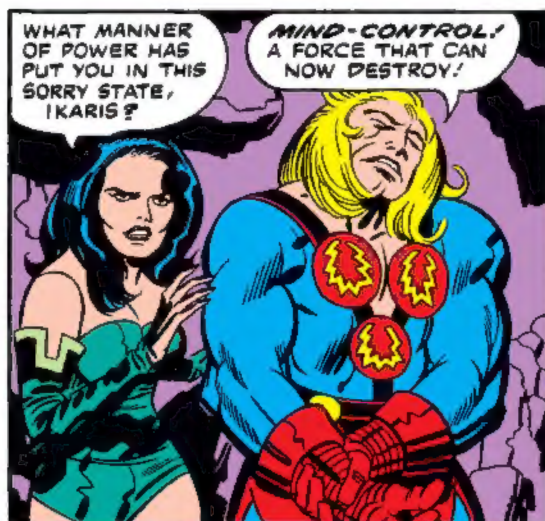




THE ARRIVAL OF SERSI AT ANY SCENE IS FOREVER ACCOMPANIED BY SURPRISES...




DO AS IKARIS COMMANDS! WE FACE A MAD THING FROM THE DIM PAST -- A THING OF INVINCIBLE POWER!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! THERE IS NO EQUAL TO THE WISDOM AND STRENGTH OF ZURAS AND THE ETERNALS!!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE FOLLOWED US INTO THE CRYPT, SERSI! FLEE WHILE YOU CAN!
FOOLISH FEMALE! YOU TARRY TOO LONG!


WHAT MANNER OF POWER HAS PUT YOU IN THIS SORRY STATE, IKARIS?
MIND-CONTROL! A FORCE THAT CAN NOW DESTROY!


DROMEDAN'S MIND-WAVES HAVE REACHED KILLING STRENGTH --WHILE OUR POWERS HAVE BEEN SORELY DIMINISHED!
INCREDIBLE!


SUDDENLY...
SKAATCH!

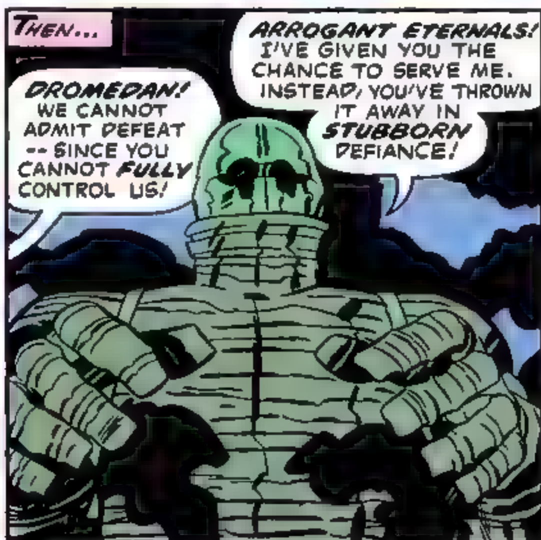

MY GIFT LIES IN ASHES! YOU DIDN'T LIKE IT AFTER ALL!
'TWAS A POOR TEST FOR A MENTAL ASSAULT AT MAXIMUM POWER!


AT MAX-MUM POWER, I CAN NOT ONLY FASHION MONSTROSITIES FROM MOLECULES, BUT MAKE A BOAR FROM A BOOR SUCH AS YOU!
YOU'VE YET TO LEARN WHAT I TAUGHT TO YOUR COMPANIONS!

FORGET YOUR BOAST! YOU'RE INCAPABLE OF CARRYING IT OUT! I'VE ERASED IT FROM YOUR MIND! ANY FURTHER THREATS WILL BE DEALT WITH HARSHLY!
YOU--YOU HORROR!

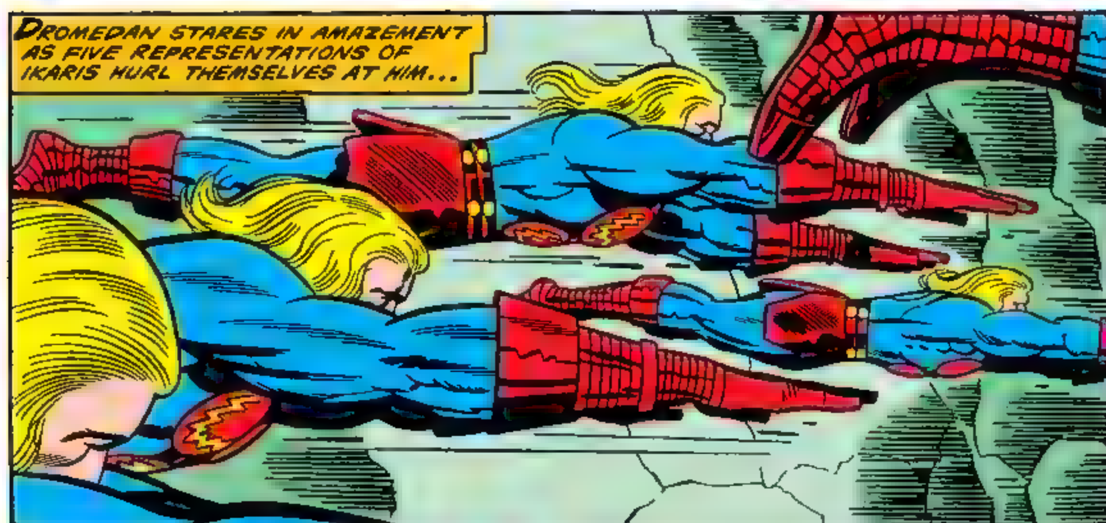
THIS MENTAL PROBE MAY BE MORE CONVINCING!
STOP IT! STOP IT!!

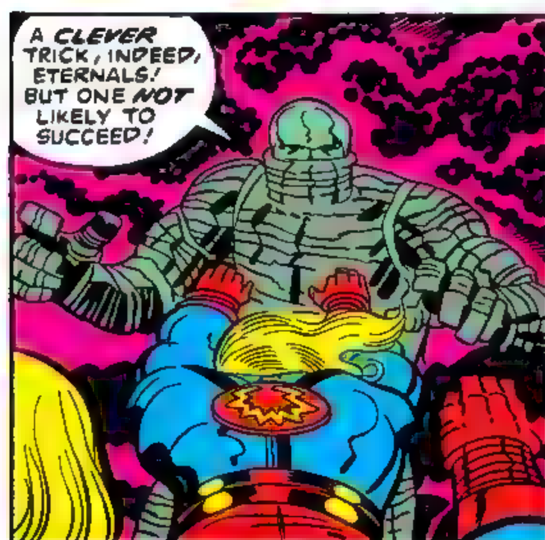
COME BACK, SERSI! DON'T DEFY HIM!
HE'LL PAY FOR THAT! HE'LL PAY DEARLY!

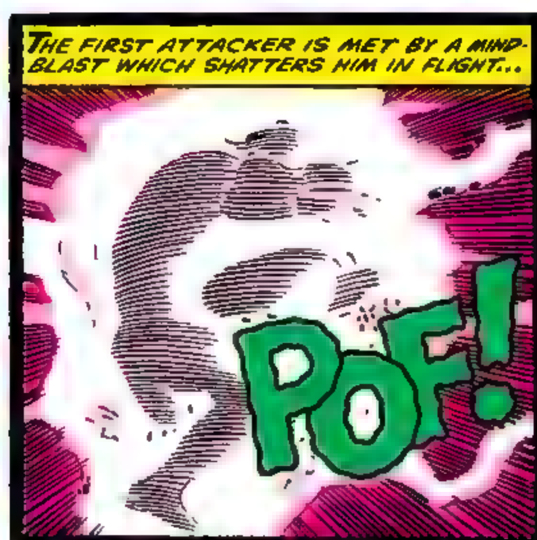
BE CALM ... YOU'VE BOUGHT US TIME! WE'VE RECOVERED OUR POWERS--AND CAN FIGHT AGAIN!
THEN WE MUST DISPATCH HIM WITH ONE BOLD MOVE! LISTEN CAREFULLY TO MY PLAN!
SPEAK SWIFTLY, GIRL--!

THEN...
ARROGANT ETERNALS! I'VE GIVEN YOU THE CHANCE TO SERVE ME. INSTEAD, YOU'VE THROWN IT AWAY IN STUBBORN DEFIANCE!
DROMEDAN! WE CANNOT ADMIT DEFEAT -- SINCE YOU CANNOT FULLY CONTROL US!


YOU CANNOT DIE PHYSICALLY, BUT I CAN TOTALLY DESTROY YOU MENTALLY! YOU'LL BE LIVING ZOMBIES FOR ALL TIME!
THEN CONCENTRATE, FOOL! WHICH ONE OF US WILL YOU CLAIM FIRST!?


THERE ARE MORE OF US HERE THAN YOU IMAGINE! ORIGINALS AND REPLICAS! SEE THEM COME FORTH!
FLY, FRIENDS! TO THE ATTACK!


DROMEDAN STARES IN AMAZEMENT AS FIVE REPRESENTATIONS OF IKARIS HURL THEMSELVES AT HIM...

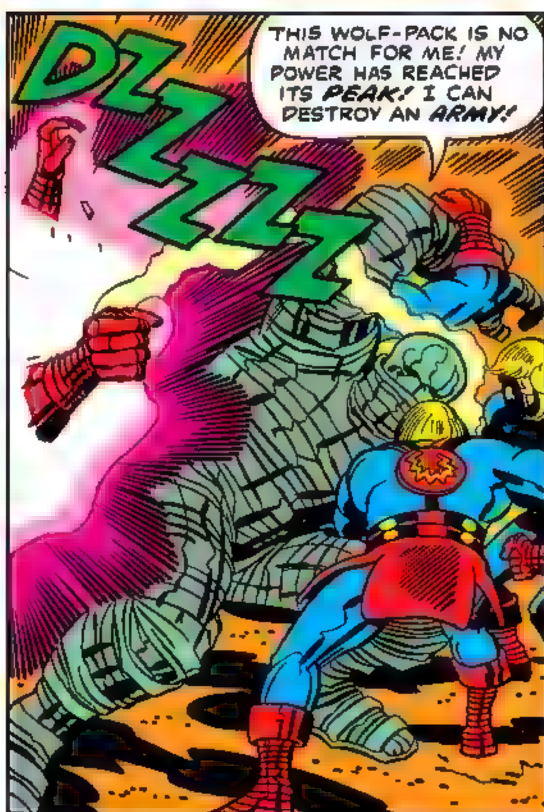

A CLEVER TRICK, INDEED, ETERNALS! BUT ONE NOT LIKELY TO SUCCEED!


THE FIRST ATTACKER IS MET BY A MIND-BLAST WHICH SHATTERS HIM IN FLIGHT...
POF!

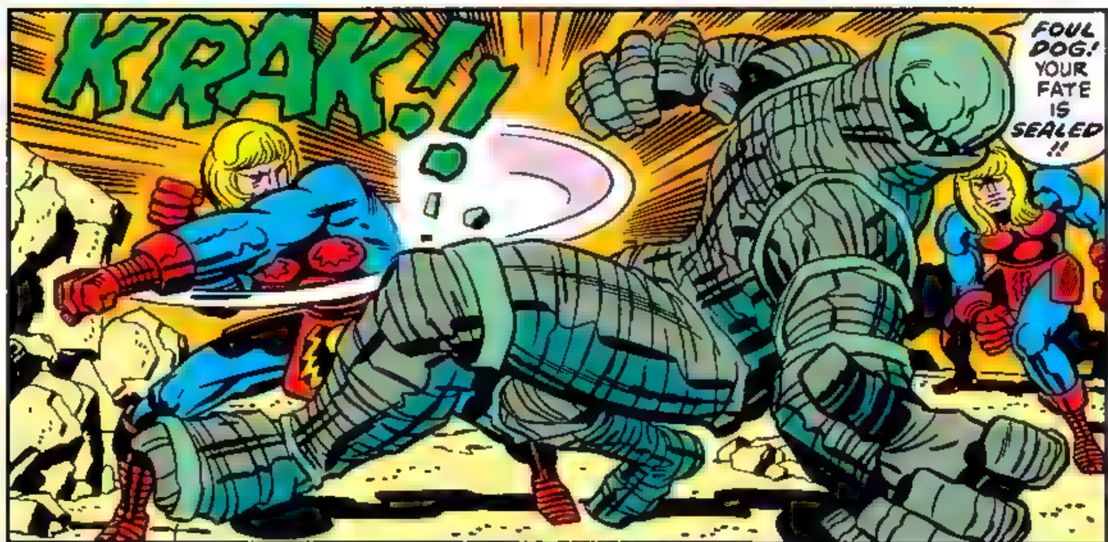
THE OTHERS CLASH WITH DROMEDAN IN A WILD MELEE OF STAGGERING FEROCITY! THE GREAT MIND-MUTANT IS FORCED TO GIVE GROUND BENEATH THE ASSAULT...

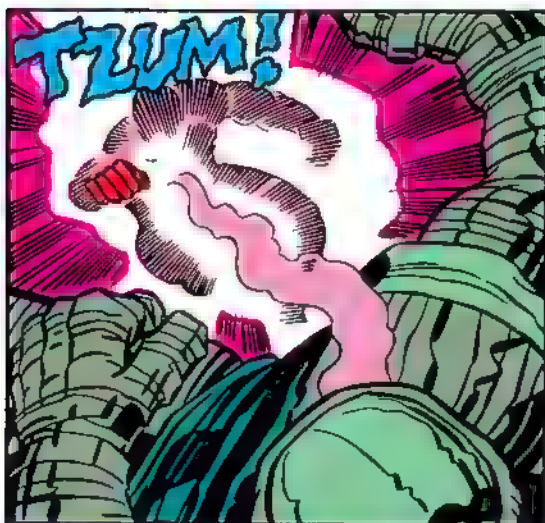
POW!

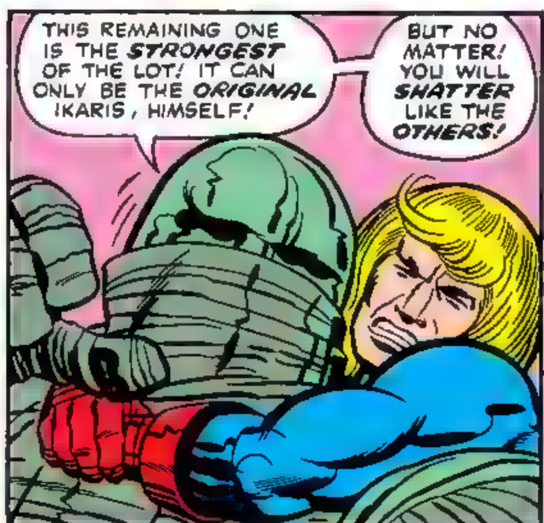
WHAM!

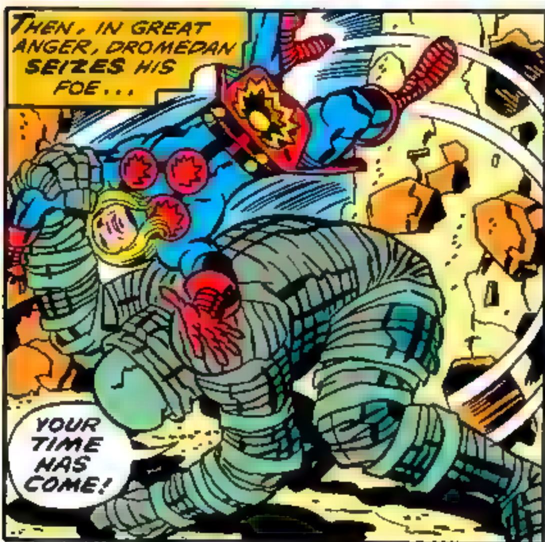


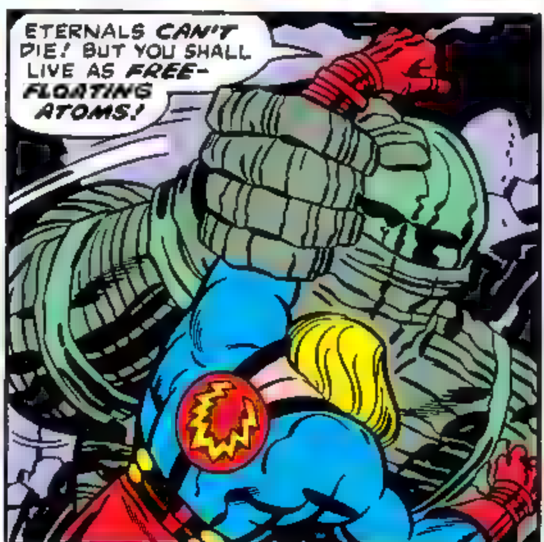



KRAK!!
FOUL DOG! YOUR FATE IS SEALED!!

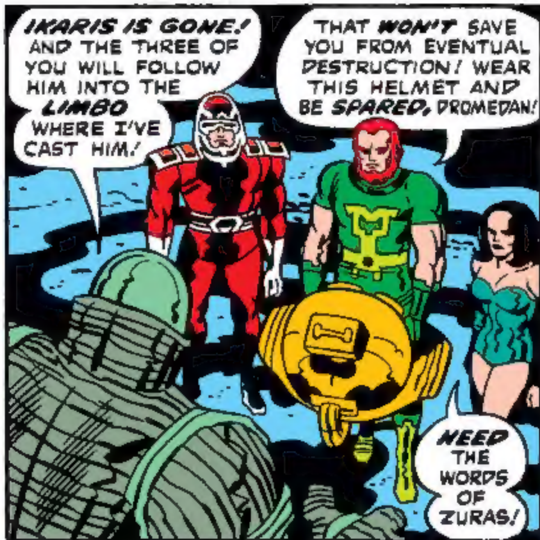

TZUM!

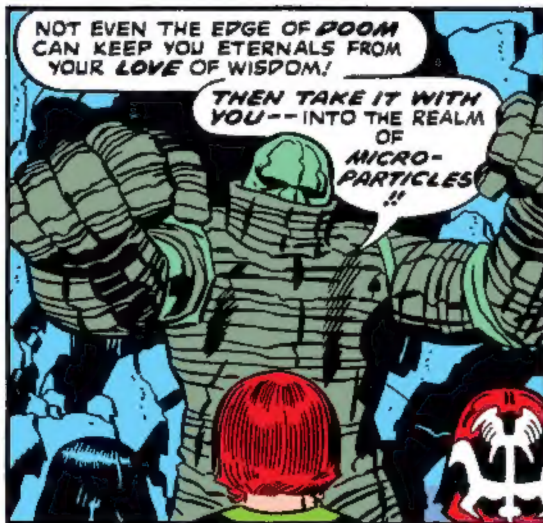

THIS REMAINING ONE IS THE STRONGEST OF THE LOT! IT CAN ONLY BE THE ORIGINAL IKARIS, HIMSELF!
BUT NO MATTER! YOU WILL SHATTER LIKE THE OTHERS!

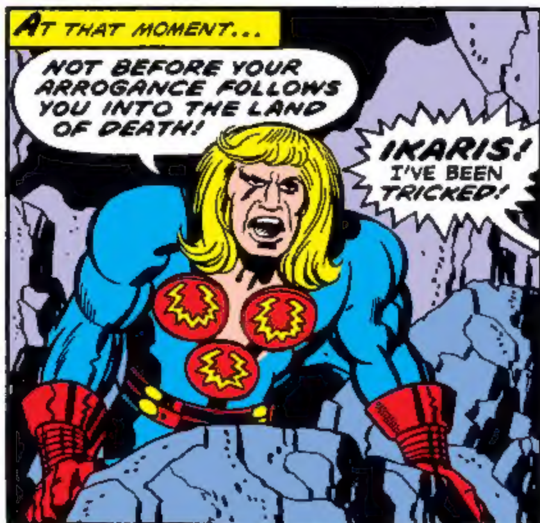

THEN, IN GREAT ANGER, DROMEDAN SEIZES HIS FOE...
YOUR TIME HAS COME!

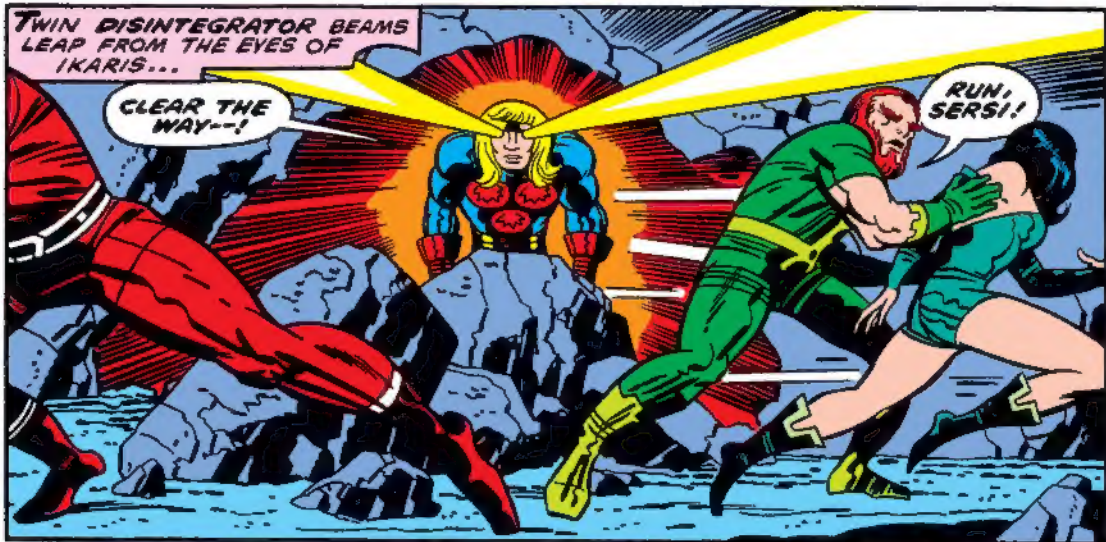

ETERNALS CAN'T DIE! BUT YOU SHALL LIVE AS FREE-FLOATING ATOMS!


TZZPP!


IKARIS IS GONE! AND THE THREE OF YOU WILL FOLLOW HIM INTO THE LIMBO WHERE I'VE CAST HIM!
THAT WON'T SAVE YOU FROM EVENTUAL DESTRUCTION! WEAR THIS HELMET AND BE SPARED, DROMEDAN!
NEED THE WORDS OF ZURAS!

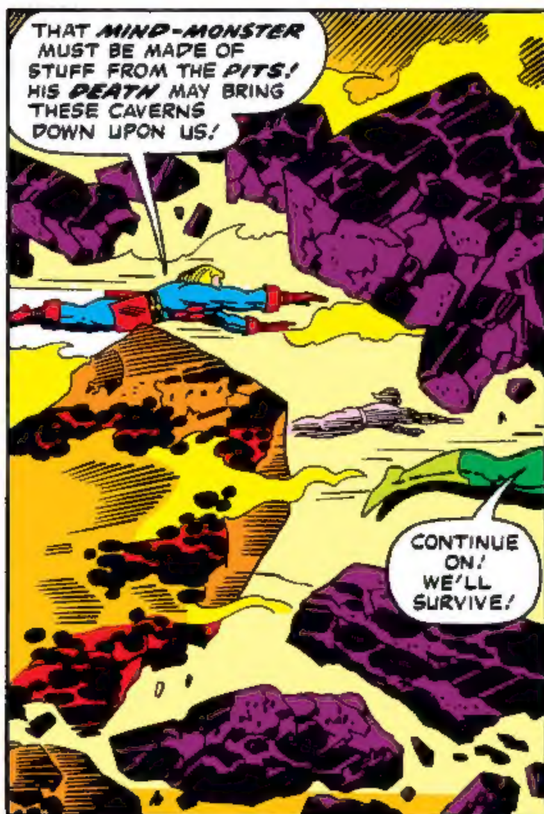

NOT EVEN THE EDGE OF DOOM CAN KEEP YOU ETERNALS FROM YOUR LOVE OF WISDOM!
THEN TAKE IT WITH YOU--INTO THE REALM OF MICRO-PARTICLES!!


AT THAT MOMENT...
NOT BEFORE YOUR ARROGANCE FOLLOWS YOU INTO THE LAND OF DEATH!
IKARIS! I'VE BEEN TRICKED!

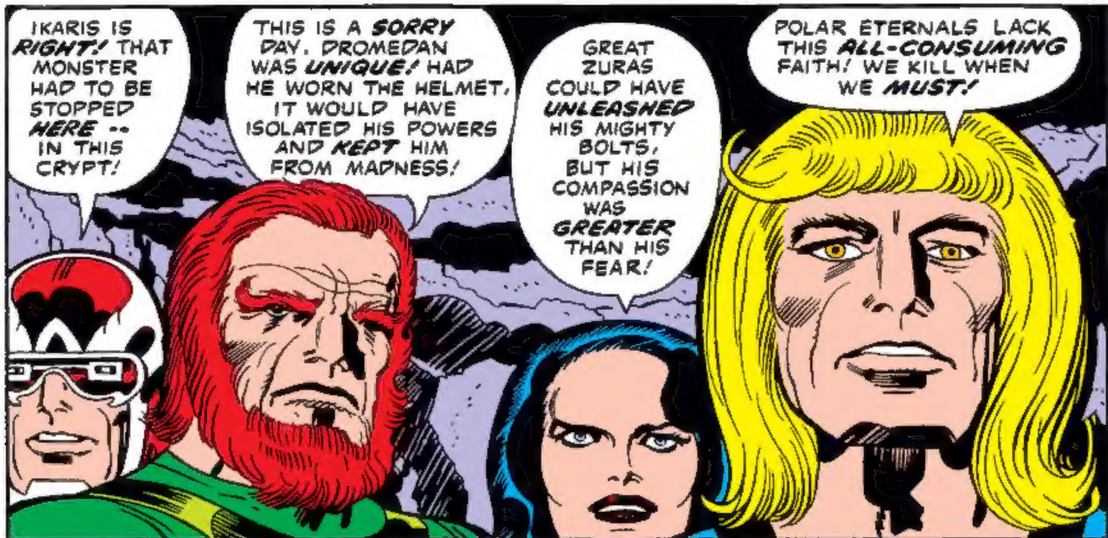

TWIN DISINTEGRATOR BEAMS LEAP FROM THE EYES OF IKARIS...
CLEAR THE WAY--!
RUN, SERSI!


DROMEDAN IS STRUCK BEFORE HE CAN ACT!
TZAAM!


THE ERUPTION THAT SWALLOWS HIM IS A WHITE HOT INFERNO THAT ROCKS THE CAVERNS OF THE CRYPT...
WOOOMM!
LEVITATE SWIFTLY -- OR THIS HOLOCAUST WILL CATCH US, TOO!

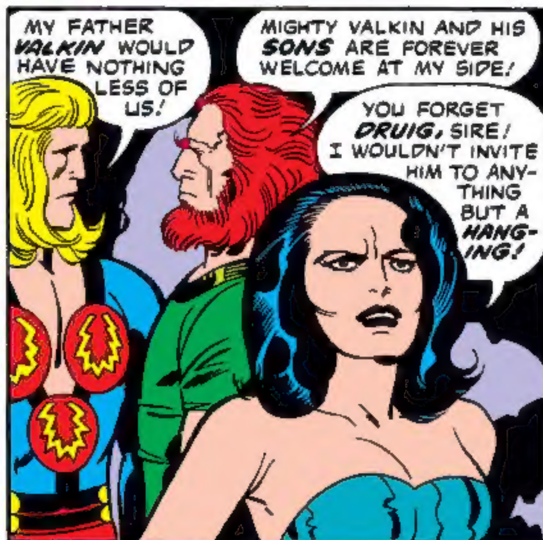

THAT MIND-MONSTER MUST BE MADE OF STUFF FROM THE PITS! HIS DEATH MAY BRING THESE CAVERNS DOWN UPON US!
CONTINUE ON! WE'LL SURVIVE!


SOON AFTER, THE EXPLOSIONS SUBSIDE, AND ONLY A GREAT BLAZE MARKS THE PASSING OF THIS STRANGEST OF CREATURES.
I'M GLAD TO SEE THIS PARTY END! DROMEDAN WAS NOT THE KIND OF ENTERTAINMENT I EXPECTED TO FIND HERE!
I CAN'T HELP WISHING THAT WE COULD HAVE DEALT WITH HIM ON MORE REASONABLE TERMS!
THIS WAS THE ONLY ANSWER! HE WAS TOO DANGEROUS TO LIVE!


IKARIS IS RIGHT! THAT MONSTER HAD TO BE STOPPED HERE -- IN THIS CRYPT!
THIS IS A SORRY DAY. DROMEDAN WAS UNIQUE! HAD HE WORN THE HELMET, IT WOULD HAVE ISOLATED HIS POWERS AND KEPT HIM FROM MADNESS!
GREAT ZURAS COULD HAVE UNLEASHED HIS MIGHTY BOLTS, BUT HIS COMPASSION WAS GREATER THAN HIS FEAR!
POLAR ETERNALS LACK THIS ALL-CONSUMING FAITH! WE KILL WHEN WE MUST!


I SAY THAT WITH DUE RESPECT FOR THE WISDOM OF GREAT ZURAS!
DON'T APOLOGIZE FOR YOUR FROZEN-FACED FAMILY OF TOUGHS! THEY DID SPAWN YOU, IKARIS!


BY THE GODS, YOU'RE THE BEST OF THAT SURLY CLAN! I'M PROUD TO CALL YOU "FRIEND!"
YOU DO ME HONOR, MAKARRI!
DESPITE THEIR STRANGE WAYS, THE POLAR ETERNALS HAVE ALWAYS SHOWN GREAT VALOR!


MY FATHER VALKIN WOULD HAVE NOTHING LESS OF US!
MIGHTY VALKIN AND HIS SONS ARE FOREVER WELCOME AT MY SIDE!
YOU FORGET DRUIG, SIRE! I WOULDN'T INVITE HIM TO ANYTHING BUT A HANGING!


AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE POLAR MOUNTAINS OF THE FAR NORTH...
SPEAK, SIGMAR! OR SHALL I TEAR THE SECRET FROM YOU BY CRUDER METHODS?
THERE IS NO SECRET, NOBLE DRUIG! YOU'VE HEARD OLD WIVES TALES!


DON'T FENCE WITH ME, RAGGED WIZARD! WHEN DRUIG SEEKS FACTS -- HE GETS THEM!
H-HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THIS THING? THE SECRET HAS BEEN KEPT FOR AGES!


THAT'S WHY I MUST KNOW IT NOW!
TELL ME! TELL ME!
AAAAA--!! YES, DRUIG... I-I--WILL!


I-IT IS A WEAPON --TOO COMPLEX A-AND TOO DANGEROUS TO CONTROL.
I-IT WAS DECIDED TO ABANDON ITS CONCEPT!
MY FATHER'S DECISION, NO DOUBT! GREAT VALKIN IS CAUTIOUS TO A FAULT!


IT WOULD BE WELL TO ADOPT HIS CAUTION, DRUIG! BEWARE OF THINGS WHICH DEFY UNDER-STANDING!
SUCH THINGS ARE WORTH EVERY RISK!


I WANT THAT WEAPON, SIGMAR! RESURRECT IT -- AND BLAST THE COST! THAT'S AN ORDER!
NO, DRUIG! YOU MUSTN'T PURSUE THIS FURTHER!
NEXT:


TO KILL A SPACE GOD